

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, SF, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS ALLEGATION THAT US URGED SOUTH AFRICA TO
WAIT FOR AUSTRALIAN UNGA PRESIDENT

1. DEPARTMENT HAS NOT URGED SOUTH AFRICA TO REMAIN IN UN
IN HOPE THAT AUSTRALIAN UNGA PRESIDENT WILL MAKE RULING
DIFFERENT FROM BOUTEFILKA'S.

2. DEPARTMENT REALIZES THAT WILLESEE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO
SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICIES AND, AS SHOWN BY AUSTRALIA'S VOTE
IN SECURITY COUNCIL, IS IN FAVOR OF SOUTH AFRICA'S
EXPULSION FROM UN. HOWEVER, AUSTRALIA VOTED AGAINST GA'S
SEPTEMBER 30 ACCEPTANCE OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE'S REPORT
REJECTING SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS. IT ALSO VOTED

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AGAINST BOUTEFILKA'S RULING THAT CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE'S

REJECTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS, APPROVED BY GA, REQUIRED EXCLUSION OF SA FROM REMAINDER OF GA SESSION. IN FORMER CASE, AUSTRALIA, LIKE US, EVIDENTLY BELIEVED REVIEW OF CREDENTIALS INTENDED ONLY TO INSURE DELEGATES ARE AUTHORIZED BY STATES THEY CLAIM TO REPRESENT, NOT TO RULE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF MEMBERS' POLICIES. IN LATTER CASE, AUSTRALIA APPARENTLY SHARED US VIEW THAT REJECTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS ON POLITICAL GROUNDS AND BOUTEFILKA'S RULING ARE INCONSISTENT WITH PROVISIONS OF

UN CHARTER WHICH ENVISAGE EXPULSION OR SUSPENSION OCCURRING ONLY ON RECOMMENDATION OF SC. BY EXCLUDING SOUTH AFRICA FROM UNGA, ASSEMBLY USURPED POWER OF SC, AND SET EXAMPLE FOR EXCLUSION OF ANY OTHER MEMBER UNPOPULAR WITH GA MAJORITY. IN VIEW OF AUSTRALIA'S VOTE AGAINST CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND BOUTEFILKA'S RULING, THE PATENT ILLEGALITY OF EXCLUSION PROCEDURE, AND THE DANGEROUS PRECEDENT SET BY SUCH ACTION, WE WOULD HOPE WILLESEE WOULD NOT REPEAT BOUTEFILKA'S RULING. HOWEVER, WE HAVE AT NO TIME DISCUSSED THIS WITH SOUTH AFRICA EITHER HERE OR IN NEW YORK.

3. AT YOUR DISCRETION, YOU MAY CONFIRM TO APPROPRIATE DFA OFFICIAL THAT PRESS REPORT IS ERRONEOUS IN THAT DEPARTMENT HAS NOT URGED SOUTH AFRICA TO WAIT FOR AUSTRALIAN GA PRESIDENT. YOU SHOULD SAY, HOWEVER, THAT DEPARTMENT SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT IMPACT OF BOUTEFILKA'S DECISION ON UN, NOTING THAT PRECEDENT NOW SET FOR EXCLUSION OF ANY UNPOPULAR MEMBER.

4. REQUEST YOU REPORT ANY REACTIONS. INGERSOLL

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